

What is claimed is:

1. A method of identifying a compound capable of modulating a splicing event in a pre-mRNA molecule, comprising:
 - a) contacting the compound with a
 - i) a cDNA comprising a disruption by an intron that renders the cDNA incapable of being expressed to produce a gene product in the absence of modulation of a splicing event, and
 - ii) elements of the splicing machinery; and
 - b) detecting expression of the cDNA to produce a gene product, thereby identifying a compound capable of modulating a splicing event in a pre-mRNA molecule.
2. A method of preventing a splicing event in a pre-mRNA molecule in a cell, comprising contacting the cell with a compound identified according to the method of claim 1.
3. A method of inducing a splicing event in a pre-mRNA molecule in a cell, comprising contacting the cell with a compound identified according to the method of claim 1.
4. A method of treating a subject having a disorder associated with an alternate or aberrant splicing event in a pre-mRNA molecule, comprising administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of a compound identified according to the method of claim 1.
5. A method of upregulating expression of a native protein in a cell containing a DNA encoding the native protein, wherein the DNA contains a mutation that causes downregulation of the native protein by aberrant splicing thereof, comprising introducing into the cell a compound identified according to the method of claim 1, whereby the aberrant splicing is inhibited, thereby resulting in upregulation of the native protein.

6. A method of upregulating expression of an alternative protein in a cell containing a DNA encoding the alternative protein, wherein the DNA is controlled by a first splicing event that results in downregulation of the alternative protein, comprising introducing into the cell a compound identified by the method of claim 1 to modulate splicing whereby the first splicing event is inhibited and a second splicing event occurs, thereby upregulating expression of the alternative protein.

7. A composition comprising a compound identified by the method of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.